

*Top 10 Most Acceptable Commodities
Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP)*



PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			20		
CSFP	MEATS	Chicken Canned		17	85%
		Tuna Lite/Water		16	80%
		Beef Canned w/NJ		13	65%
		Pork Canned		11	55%
		Beef Meatball Stew		10	50%
		Turkey Canned		2	10%
	MEAT ALTERNATES	Peanut Butter Smooth		16	80%
		Beans Great Northern		13	65%
		Cheese Process		11	55%
		Beans Pinto		10	50%
		Beans Red Kidney Lite		9	45%

Top 10 Most Acceptable Commodities
CSFP

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			20		
CSFP	MEAT ALTERNATES	Egg Mix		7	35%
		Beans Blackeye Bags		6	30%
		Beans Vegetarian		6	30%
		Cheese Process Sliced		6	30%
	FRUITS	Apple Juice		17	85%
		Fruit Cocktail		17	85%
		Peaches Cling Cnd		16	80%
		Applesauce		15	75%
		Grape Juice		15	75%
		Orange Juice		15	75%
		Pears Cnd		13	65%
		Pineapple Juice		11	55%
		Apricots		10	50%
		Pineapple Cnd		9	45%
	VEGETABLES	Corn Whole Kernel		15	75%
		Peas		14	70%
		Tomatoes		13	65%
		Beans Green Cnd		12	60%
		Corn Cream Cnd		12	60%
		Carrots Cnd		10	50%

Top 10 Most Acceptable Commodities
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			20		
	VEGETABLES	Potato Flakes Dehy		10	50%
		Potatoes Whole		10	50%
		Spinach		10	50%
	GRAINS/BREADS	Macaroni Elbow		16	80%
		Spaghetti		16	80%
		Cereal Corn		15	75%
		Cereal Rice		13	65%
		Rice Milled		12	60%
		Farina		9	45%
		Cereal Oats		8	40%
		Oats Rolled		8	40%
		Cereal Infant Rice		6	30%
	OTHER	Milk Evaporated		16	80%
		Milk NFD Instant		11	55%
		Formula Inf Liq		6	30%

Top 10 Least Acceptable Commodities
CSFP

PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT CHOSE THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			20		
CSFP	MEATS	Pork Canned		5	25%
		Beef Meatball Stew		2	10%
		Chicken Canned		1	5%
		Pork Frz. Ground		1	5%
	MEAT ALTERNATES	Beans Great Northern		3	15%
		Beans Pinto Cans		2	10%
		Beans Red Kidney		2	10%
		Egg Mix		2	10%
		Beans Baby Lima		1	5%
		Beans Blackeye Bags		1	5%
		Beans Pinto Bags		1	5%
		Beans Navy Pea		1	5%
		Beans Red Kidney Lite		1	5%
	FRUITS	Grapefruit Juice		3	15%
		Grape Juice		1	5%
		Orange Juice		1	5%
		Prunes Pitted		1	5%
		Pumpkin Cnd		3	15%

Top 10 Least Acceptable Commodities
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			20		
	VEGETABLES	Tomato Juice		2	10%
		Carrots Cnd		1	5%
		Corn Cream Cnd		1	5%
		Spinach		1	5%
	GRAINS/BREADS	Macaroni Elbow		2	10%
		Cereal Oats		1	5%
		Cereal Wheat		1	5%
		Oats Rolled		1	5%
		Rice Milled		1	5%
		Rice Milled Long Grain		1	5%
		Spaghetti		1	5%
	OTHER	Milk NFD Instant		7	35%
		Milk Evaporated		2	10%

New Products Requested
CSFP

PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT REQUESTED THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			20		
CSFP	MEATS	*Canned Turkey		4	20%
		Salmon		3	15%
		Chicken Soup		2	10%
		Beef		1	5%
		Frozen Chicken		1	5%
		Ground Beef		1	5%
		Pork Chops		1	5%
	MEAT ALTERNATES	**Sliced Cheese		1	5%
		Low fat Cheese		1	5%
		Peanuts Roasted		1	5%
	FRUITS	Canned Cherries		2	10%
		Sugar Free Fruits & Vegetables		1	5%
		Fresh Oranges		1	5%
		Apple Slices		1	5%

*Canned Chicken is currently offered to States by USDA.

**Sliced cheese was offered to States by USDA as a bonus.

New Products Requested
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PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT REQUESTED THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			20		
CSFP	FRUITS	*Pineapple Juice		1	5%
		*Orange Juice		1	5%
		Raisins		2	10%
	VEGETABLES	Spaghetti Sauce		2	10%
		Canned Beets		1	5%
		Sugar Free Vegetables		1	5%
		Mixed Vegetables		1	5%
		*Potatoes & Dehy Slices		1	5%
		Tomato Sauce		1	5%
		Canned Greens		1	5%
	GRAINS/BREADS	Cornmeal		5	25%
		Flour		6	30%
		Bread		2	10%
		Bakery Mix		2	10%
	OTHER	Butter		5	25%
		Canned Soup		3	15%

*Currently offered to States by USDA.

New Products Requested
CSFP

PROGRAM	CATEGORY	COMMODITY	# OF STATES RESPONDED	# OF STATES THAT REQUESTED THIS COMMODITY	PERCENT
			20		
CSFP	OTHER	Pudding		1	5%
		Diabetic Foods		1	5%
		Low Sodium Foods		1	5%
		Condiments		1	5%
		Honey		1	5%
		Sugar		1	5%
		Low Fat Evap. Milk		1	5%

*Currently offered to States by USDA.

Comments

MEATS

- The canned beef can be helped by pouring boiling water on it after removing the fat and then draining it.
- Chunky beef stew, A590, has been very popular.
- County agencies have reported requests for more meats, specifically more chicken, tuna, and pink salmon for the CSFP boxes.

MEAT ALTERNATES

- Clients prefer more peanut butter instead of beans.

FRUIT

- The Mississippi Food Network (MFN) dietitian has raised concerns about the advisability of distributing grapefruit juice to elderly participants who are frequently on medications that can be adversely affected by this juice. Both our dietitian and the county agencies have recommended that grapefruit juice not be used in the CSFP boxes, and we have assured the agency that we will not order any more of this product.
- Grapefruit juice interferes with meds and kids don't like it.
- Grapefruit juice is not good to use with certain medicines and would like more choices available when this product is on the line.

VEGETABLES

- Cans of mixed vegetables could be used for soups.
- Frozen vegetables would be nice for clients, but counties may not have freezers to keep them contained.

PACAKAGING/DELIVERY

- Mylar-type packaging for Grits CW 40 has been a major improvement, leading to much less damage than the same product in paper bag packaging; please extend this type of packaging to Oats 3, Spaghetti 2, and Macaroni 1.
- A recent shipment of Beans, Blkeye 2 needed to be replaced due to weak packaging seals.

- The bags of rice, spaghetti, and dried beans break easily during shipping and when the packages are broken apart for box assembly.
- The plastic packaging for the dried egg mix has been very fragile.
- Pack size is too small on prunes and on the fruit & nut trail mix – our family really likes it.
- Cranberry juice concentrate, although well received by clients, has been a difficult product to handle, due to its fragility and high rates of damage in pre-packed boxes.
- The cranberry juice concentrate (bonus product), packaged in the thin soft drink type can has been the most difficult item to handle. The cranberry juice concentrate is often misunderstood by the elderly recipients who may have difficulty noticing or reading the instruction on the shiny side of the can.
- We also have concerns about the proposed shipping of some USDA foods/juices in new soft side packaging method.
- The transition in case packaging for fruits and vegetables from full cardboard cases to tray packs has caused my local agency to have to purchase approximately 15,000 additional food package boxes per month, at a cost per box of \$.25, for an additional monthly program cost of about \$3,800. Should juice cases also be replaced by tray packs, the cost to my program for replacement boxes would rise considerably.

AVAILABILITY/NEW PRODUCTS

- Not all product forms or pack sizes are available to all programs completing this report. Consider offering more variety items within the food package to CSFP.
- Want more Farmers Market products like fresh fruit & vegetables, fresh greens and whole grain breads. Appreciate the coupons for farmer's market products last summer.
- Need more canned fruits and vegetables.
- Continue offering different cuts of fruits and vegetables such as diced, tidbits, sliced.
- I appreciate all the food, but would like more sugar free products.
- Need more variety in each category.
- Seniors love the 2# brick of cheese. Always get comments preferring this size over the 5# every other month. Could go several months without cheese if they miss the month it's passed out.
- Clients prefer to have any canned meat instead of Egg Mix. Egg Mix in addition to meat products would be more acceptable.

NUTRITION

- Some foods are too salty and the amount of fat/grease needs to be reduced in some products.

APPRECIATIONS

- Food package acceptance by participants has gotten an enormous boost by the use of manufacturers' labels instead of the generic USDA labels.
- Bonus items have been very well accepted by participants.
- Overall responses from clients to the seven bonus commodities offered in their boxes since September 2001 have been very positive.
- Clients enjoy the recent bonus items of fruit-nut trail mix and cran-juice concentrate.
- I am very grateful for this program. I think any new products offered would be appreciated and welcome.